



## PRESS RELEASE

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### **Statement of Chairman Roscoe Bartlett**

#### *Markup of H.R. 5122, the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2007*

**Washington, D.C.** – Thank you Mr. Chairman. I want to especially thank the Projection Forces Subcommittee's Ranking Member, Mr. Taylor, for his efforts, and all the members of the subcommittee for their contributions in bringing together this mark.

This mark increases the requested authorization for programs within the jurisdiction of the subcommittee by \$1.3 billion. The mark includes several initiatives not in the Administration's budget request that we believe will enhance the ability of the United States to project American military power around the world. These initiatives include:

- An additional \$400 million to allow the Navy to build two Virginia Class attack submarines in 2009
- An additional \$200 million to accelerate the modernization of the Arleigh Burke class destroyer fleet
- An additional \$300 million to procure three additional C-17s
- An additional \$67 million to buy-out the lease for an additional Maritime Prepositioning ship, and
- Increases to several Navy, Air Force, and Marine Corps procurement and R&D programs.

The recommended mark also includes several important legislative proposals that:

- Limit several ship construction programs to Navy budget estimates to better ensure the affordability of the CNO's 313 ship plan
- Mandate a minimum attack submarine force of 48 subs
- Require a minimum strategic airlift force structure of 299 aircraft
- Allow for the limited retirement of KC-135E tankers, and
- Prohibit the retirement of any B-52s until a replacement capability is available

I believe that this mark reflects the judgment of the Members on power projection priorities and I recommend adoption of this mark.

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